

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/509,673
Amendment filed March 9, 2007
Reply to OA dated December 18, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 2 as follows:

An object of the present invention, which has been accomplished to overcome this problem, is to ~~provided~~ provide a medical container comprising a plurality of chambers and adapted to readily and reliably open a small container therein.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 13 as follows:

The small container 15 is in the form of a bag formed by heat-sealing the peripheral edges of two multilayer films (sheet material) and has a vitamin D solution enclosed therein. The multilayer film is a three-layer film which is susceptible to delamination and which can be prepared by sandwiching a cyclic olefin polymer layer between polyethylene layers. Also usable is a film which comprises an intermediate layer of resin having low miscibility with other resin layers and which is liable to delaminate, such as a film prepared by sandwiching a polypropylene layer between polyethylene layers. In this case, it is desirable that the innermost layer be 5 to 50 ~~µm~~ mm in thickness. In addition to the vitamin D solution, the medicament to be enclosed in the small container 15 can be selected from among a wide variety of medicaments which are undesirable to directly mix with the medicaments in the chambers 9, 11, such as powder or liquid medicaments of antibiotics, anticancer drugs or cardiogenic drugs. Although not limited particularly, the liquid medicaments usable include those of vitamins or trace elements, solutions such as physiological saline and glucose solution, and parenteral compositions.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 15 as follows:

The multiple-chamber medical container and thus constructed will be used in the manner to be described next. To administer the medicaments within the container 1, the first or second chamber 9 or 11 is pressed as by manual pressing to increase the internal pressure of the chamber, whereby the partitioning ~~weal~~ weak seal portion 13 is opened to cause the first and second chambers 9, 11 to communicate with each other, mixing together the medicaments in the chambers 9, 11. The weak seal portion 13 is opened at this time by the separation of the films 5a, 5b of the container body 5, thereby opening the small container 15.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 25 as follows:

Although the small container 15 is accommodated in the first chamber 9, the small container 15 can be accommodated alternatively in the second chamber 11 as seen in FIG. 12. This arrangement has the following advantage. As shown in the drawing, no medicament is accommodated directly in the second chamber ~~11~~ 15, but the small container 11 alone is provided in this chamber. For this reason, no medicament is discharged even if the medicinal outlet portion 7 is pierced with a needle, for example, before the partitioning weak seal portion 13 is opened. Accordingly, the medicaments to be mixed together are prevented from being discharged before mixing. Furthermore, the medicaments can be prevented from being discharged before mixing even in the absence of the discharge-control weak seal portion 25 included in the second embodiment.